

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were pending in the above-identified application, of which claims 6-9, 11-12 and 24-26 were withdrawn. Claims 20 and 21 were rejected. With this amendment, claim 20 and 21 were cancelled and claims 27-46 were added.

In the Office Action, Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Suzuki et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0018162). Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Suzuki et al.* in view of *van de Witte* (article). Applicant has cancelled these claims and presented new claims 27-47.

Independent claims 27 and 41 recite "a first optical compensation layer and a second optical compensation layer, each of the first and second optical compensation layers being made of an inorganic material and having an optical axis inclined with respect to a liquid crystal panel surface, at least one of the first and second optical compensation layers being positioned on the luminous flux incidence side of the liquid crystal panel." Applicant submits that the prior art does not disclose these limitations.


Suzuki discloses two optical compensators (233, 234) positioned on the luminous flux emission side of a liquid crystal display panel (232). While *Suzuki* mentions that the positions of the optical compensators were not limited to the specific embodiment in Fig. 21, *Suzuki* required that both optical compensators remained on the emission side of the liquid crystal display panel. In particular, *Suzuki* states that "the optical compensator 234 can be located at any position so long as the optical compensator 234 is located between the liquid crystal panel 232 and the exit side polarizer 235." (See Par. [0191]). Thus, *Suzuki* actually teaches away from the invention recited in claims 27 and 41, which require "at least one of the first and second optical compensation layers being positioned on the luminous flux incidence side of the liquid crystal

panel." Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 27 and 41, as well as dependent claims 28-40 and 42-46, are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 21, 2006

By: 
David Rozenblat
Registration No. 47,044
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000